

State of California  
Business, Transportation & Housing Agency  
Department of Transportation

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ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS  
Comments on Document in Circulation  
11-Imp-78/111 KP L11.6/L25.3; 33.5/39.7  
Action Item

CTC Meeting: July 11-12, 2001

Agenda Item: 2.2b.(4)

*Original Signed By* \_\_\_\_\_

W.J. EVANS  
Chief Financial Officer  
July 1, 2001

**SUMMARY- DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**  
**ROUTES 78 AND 111 IN IMPERIAL COUNTY**

**11-Imp-78/111:**

From State Route 86, northwest of the City of Brawley, to State Route 111, southeast of the City of Brawley, Imperial County.

**Proposed Action:**

Construct State Route 78/111, "Brawley Bypass", as a four-lane expressway.

**Programming:**

The project is programmed in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for \$75.2 million (\$60.7 million capital and \$14.5 million support funds). Estimated capital costs (construction and right of way) for the various build alternatives range from \$69 to \$85 million. Additional funding will be requested after the project alternative is selected and cost estimate finalized.

**Alternatives Being Considered:**

- No-build.
- Fredricks Alternative (Variation 1: Intersection, Variation 2: Interchange.
- Del Rio Alternative.
- Del Rio North Alternative.

**Potential Significant Environmental Effects:**

- Impacts between 155 and 185 hectares of agriculture land (farmland to transportation use).
- Impacts wildlife movement and habitat.
- Impacts to Western Burrowing Owl, a Federal sensitive and State special concern species.

**Proposed Measures to Minimize Harm:**

- Preservation of farmland through the purchase of conservation easements.
- Special bridge design measures and wetland creation.
- Avoid construction during breeding season, exclusion from owl burrows, and establishment of environmentally sensitive areas.

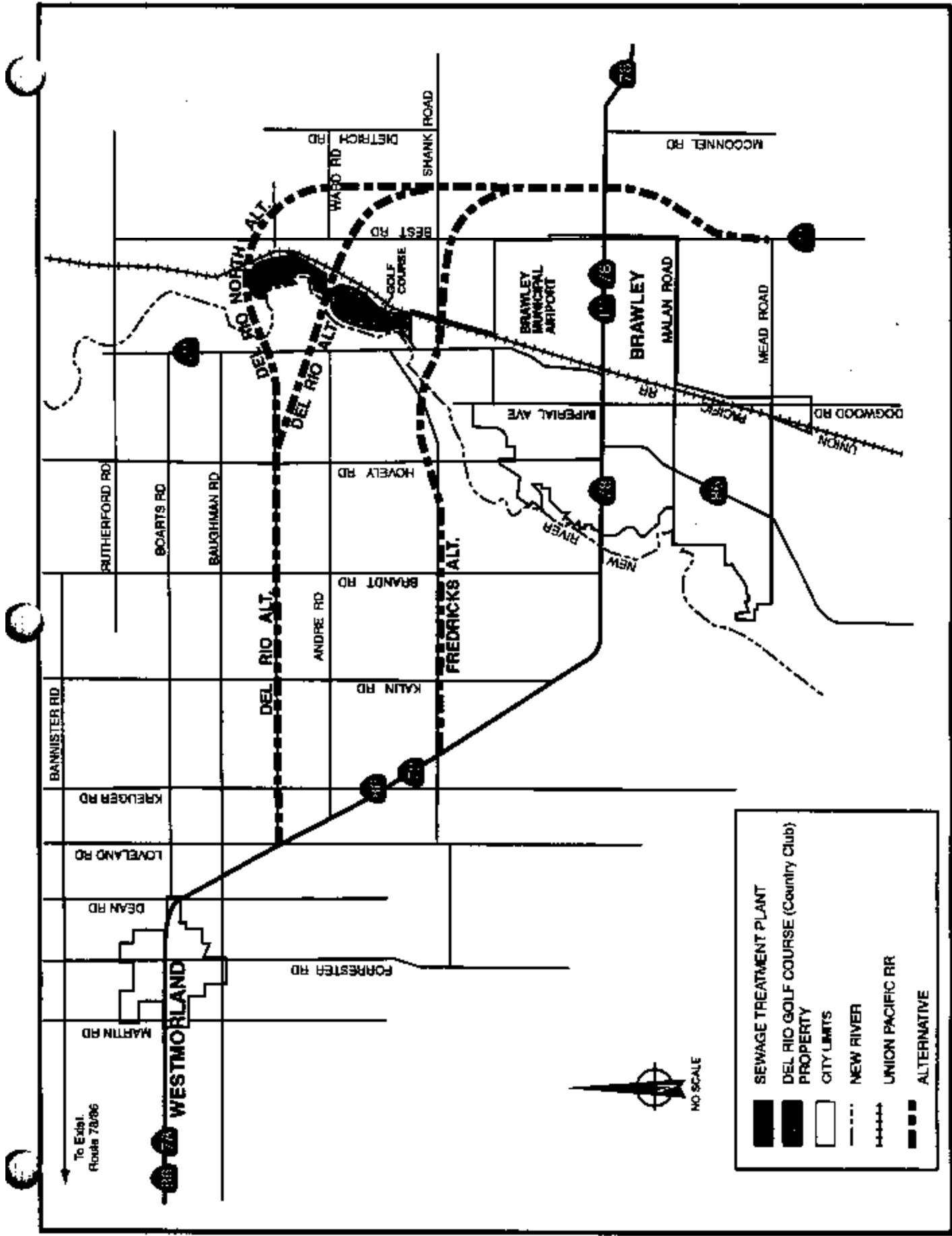


Figure 1  
PROJECT LOCATION AND ALTERNATIVES